WHERE DOES ALL OUR TUITION MONEY GO? FIND OUT ON PAGE 4

The Hampden-Sydney Tiger

August 19, 2021 *"The Hampden-Sydney student will behave as a gentleman at all times and in all places."* *Issue XCXI.1*

Welcome, Class of 2025!

Photo courtesy of hsc.edu

H-SC COVID-19 Regulations: *As of Now*

GRAYSON HARMON '22
STAFF WRITER

As Hampden-Sydney men return to The Hill for the upcoming academic year, there are several changes that everyone should know about. While these alterations are somewhat different than the ones listed in College President Larry Stimpert's July 30th email, the College hopes to continue on with a strong academic year.

As posted on the College's website on August 13th, "Hampden-Sydney is planning for the 2021-22 academic year to be as normal as possible. We will continue to seek and follow guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, Governor Northam, and other regulatory agencies." With this goal in mind, an updated masking policy was announced, and it is one all too familiar to students. The statement reads:

"Given high transmission levels in Prince Edward County, all individuals—both vaccinated and unvaccinated—are currently required to wear masks inside campus buildings when others are nearby. This is in accordance with the CDC's July 28 recommendation regarding masking in areas with substantial or high levels of community transmission. This policy is subject to change as conditions evolve."

With the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19, these policies are likely to change as we progress throughout this fall and into the winter months.

While this change may be the most important for students, the other changes listed in Stimpert's email will remain the same as of now. If you do not submit a vaccination record then you will be required to be tested weekly and must wear a mask indoors and when close to others.

Failing to get

Continue reading on page 5

Photo courtesy of hsc.edu

Masks in Paradise

MICHAEL HARRIS '22
LIFE EDITOR

As we welcome in the new school year, there was a hope that social distancing, masks, and COVID-19 were behind us. However, thanks to the new Delta variant, that future seems to be getting further away.

The good news is that HSC sports are back and Tiger football is gearing into full swing! With this change comes some restrictions but also some great memories for us to gather together as students. Due to the high COVID rates, masks are now required indoors despite vaccination status. This is a necessary regulation to keep all of us safe.

Despite the frustrations that come with these restrictions, it's refreshing that the students and athletes follow these guidelines for the safety of everyone around them. In terms of the dining hall, a lot of us athletes are ecstatic for the return of the sandwich line as well as the omelet station, two things that have proven to be great cures for the "back to school blues."

As long as we continue to wear masks, we can enjoy these simple pleasures that we have taken for granted. When cases around the Prince Edward area begin to decrease, mask mandates will hopefully be lifted and we will begin gravitating towards our old version of normal.

The good news is that HSC sports are back and Tiger football is gearing into full swing!

CAC Plans Active Year for Students

BENJAMIN HAGER '23
NEWS EDITOR

Hampden-Sydney's College Activities Council typically plays a large role in student life on campus, but that role was somewhat diminished last year due to COVID. However, with new COVID guidelines and a new semester on the horizon, CAC is looking to jumpstart social life on campus with various events and activities from video game tournaments to jam bands. I sat down with CAC Chairman Cal Mitchell '22 to talk about CAC's plans for the semester.

Mitchell said that "last year, we weren't able to do a lot of what we usually do. Things like Greek week and homecoming, we weren't able to do those or host concerts or events at the Tiger Inn and other social events, and we were also unable to fund other student organizations that we'd usually help out with. So we were bummed out about that, because we weren't able to bring the students together as much as we usually would, but we're looking forward to this year and we're excited to see what we can do."

"We're looking forward to this year and we're excited to see what we can do."

Keith Marks '22 echoed Mitchell's words, saying "I'm looking forward to being allowed to have events for the students to enjoy. We're excited to get started and we're looking forward to catering different events for all of the students' various interests."

In addition to the normal things such as funding student activities, CAC funded the new multipurpose area at Lake Chalgrove, which is roughly 75% finished. Cal told me he's excited to utilize that space in front of Chalgrove, and that CAC will also be hosting video game and fishing tournaments (with prizes!) throughout the semester.

CAC is looking to start getting news out to the student body about upcoming events and projects and will soon have an Instagram page to announce such events.

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PAGE TWO

The Hampden-Sydney Tiger Staff, circa 1979. Courtesy the Kaleidoscope

Join the team.

Write for *The Tiger*.

Contact newspaper@hsc.edu for more information.

The Hampden-Sydney Tiger

Founded 31 January 1920
by J. B. Wall '19

Editor-in-Chief
Michael Van Citters '22

Associate Editor
Daniel Nivens '24

News Editor
Benjamin Hager '23

Opinion Editor
Patrick Strite '24

Life Editor
Michael Harris '22

Staff Photographer
Patrick Garifo '23

Staff Writers
Grayson Harmon '22
Jeffrey Hunsaker '23
Drake Kalinowski '23

Faculty Advisor
Dr. James Frusetta

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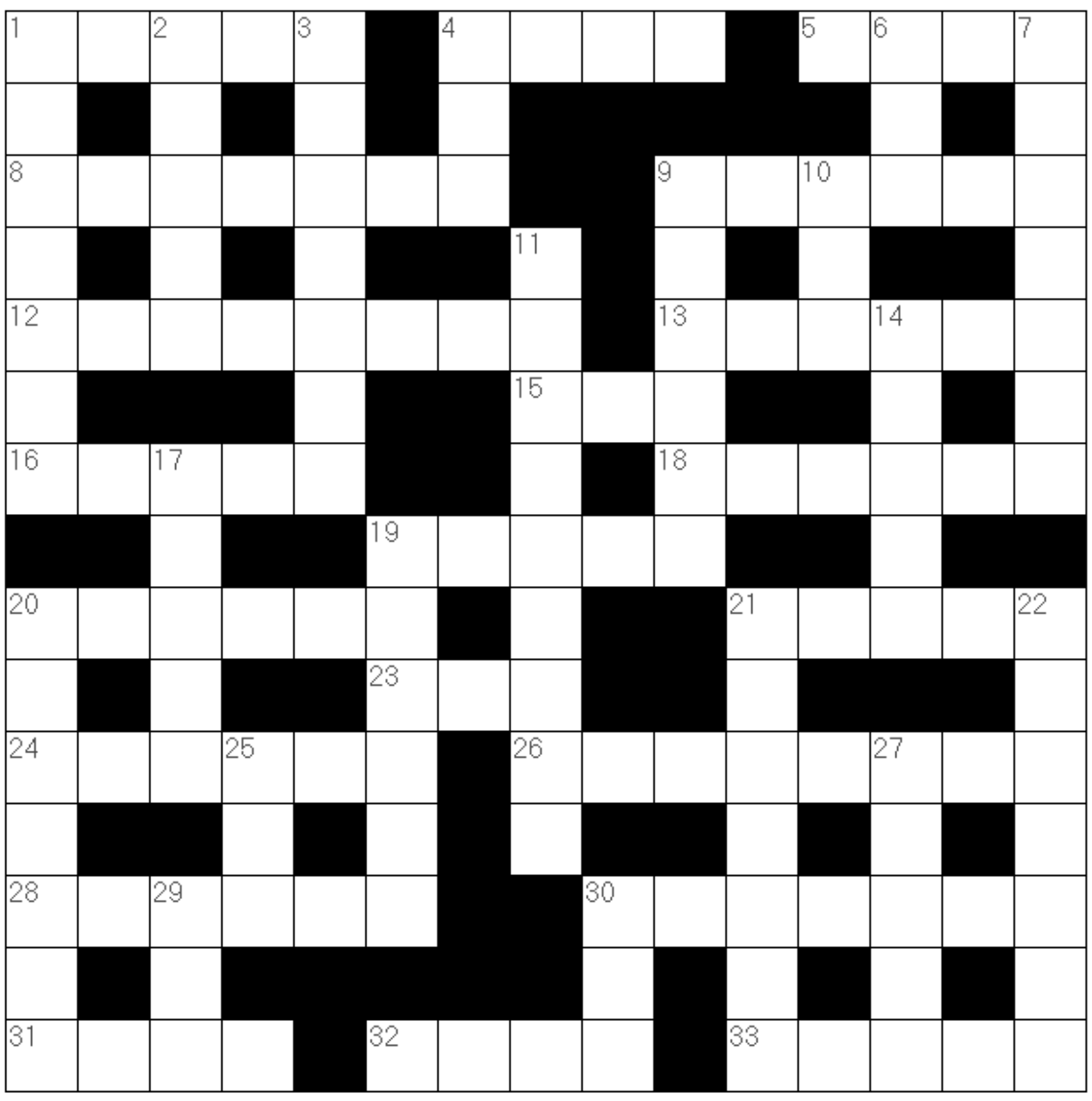
The Hampden-Sydney Tiger is a student newspaper serving the community of Hampden-Sydney and operating independently of the College. *The Tiger* is printed biweekly by *The Farmville Herald.*

The opinions expressed in *The Tiger* belong to those expressing them and in no way reflect the official stance of *The Tiger.*

We accept submissions in the form of letters or guest columns. Brevity is encouraged. Interested writers, cartoonists, and photographers can send us an e-mail at newspaper@hsc.edu.

Crossword Puzzle

PUZZLE BY
MICHAEL VAN CITTERS '22
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



ACROSS:
1. Regions, or districts
4. Notre Dame Gipper real surname
5. Lure
8. Two things fastened together with rope
9. Oxidized bronze coating
12. The act of coming out
13. Corkscrew pasta
16. Third person, plural, possessive
18. The sun never set on the British _____
19. Bleakness, lifelessness
20. Cryptic, mysterious
21. Rockband "Blue _____"
23. Ice-pick-like tool
24. Deer horn
26. More erudite
28. The genius behind *Sandstorm*
30. Shocking Spiderman foe
31. Back of the neck
32. Sonny and Cher: "I Got You ____"
33. Casual sergeant address

DOWN:
1. Physical affliction
2. Come after
3. Half a pair of shears
4. Choke from disgust
6. Tuna, often raw
7. Between 3pm and 5pm in England
9. Peter _____, a.k.a Spider Ham
10. Tit for this
11. Shellacked
14. Hom-, su-, patr-, matr- ending
17. Technology-themed Disney Park
19. Friendly address to a loved one
20. R-U-N-N-O-F-T syn.
21. Happiness opposite
22. Body part including hammer and anvil
25. ___ Gehrig
27. To help with studying
29. Tombstone classic
30. Antiquated for "before"

Errata:

In the April 29 issue of *The Tiger,* the titles of Drs. Kenneth Lehman and Daniel Mossler were mistakenly transposed. Dr. Lehman was Squires Professor of History, and Dr. Mossler was Professor of Psychology.

NEWS

Photo courtesy of Daniel Nivens '24

No Budget Deficit, Budget Office Reports

DANIEL NIVENS '24
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

According to Kenneth Copeland, Hampden-Sydney's Vice Presi-dent for Business Affairs and Finance, the College anticipates no deficit for the 2021–22 fiscal year. When The Tiger last spoke to Copeland in April, the College had recently closed a gap of around $1,000,000 in the budget. The deficit was caused by a combination of the COVID-19 pandemic and the overall size of the student body.

At the time of the previous deficit, the Budget Office planned for a total student body of around 920 students; in reali-ty, the student body for the 2020-21 school year was only around 880 students. This disparity was caused by the relatively small size of the Classes of 2023 and 2024, both only around 230 stu-dents.

Although the matriculating Class of 2025 is also only around 230 students, the Budget Office planned for this smaller size and budgeted for a freshman class of that size. The Budget Office ex-pects a total student body of around 850, but according to Copeland, the final count is subject to change until after the ma-triculation period concludes. Even with the variability, though, the Budget Office was "extra sensitive" to avoid overestimating the final size of the student body.

The student body—and the associating revenue from tuition—makes up the vast majority of the College's income. As a result of fewer students, the College has made "significant cost reduc-tions/reallocations" to ensure that there is no deficit. Copeland was not specific as to what was reduced or reallo-cated in this year's budget, but he noted that "significant atten-tion" was paid "to not [impact] the student experience in any neg-ative way."

For students looking to help preserve the maximum Hampden-Sydney experience for future generations and continue to improve the College, the best thing to do is to recommend the College to young men who might be interested in attending H-SC.

Pauley Science Center: How's It Coming?

DRAKE KALINOWSKI '23
STAFF WRITER

Ever since the emails of the students and faculty were blasted with the announcement of the $30 million donation from the Pauley family and the subsequent announcement describing what exactly the single largest gift in the history of the College would be used for, all members of the Hampden-Sydney Community have been eagerly following the progressofthebuilding.

Talks ranged from the construction throughout the school year to rumors about when the building might be finished, what exactly it will contain, and what the exterior of the building might look like. Fortunately for the community on The Hill, Kenneth Copeland, Vice President for Business Affairs and Finance, was available to discuss the finer details of the newest addition to the hallowed halls of Hampden-Sydney.

Copeland explained H-SC works under a concept called "Guaranteed Maximum Price." That is to say, the budget of the new building cannot exceed a certain amount. Considering the financial troubles that have plagued the college in the past, this concept seems wise when considering the gift from the Pauley family and the budget of the building itself. Copeland assured *The Tiger* that the construction and timeline for opening of the building is still "very much on track," meaning that the construction should be finished in late February or early March of this academic year.

Readers might remember that the building was, in theory, supposed to be open earlier than this current timeline. However, the original timeline was scrapped in favor of the new timeline after continuous rain in the spring of 2021 delayed

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New B&G Director Shares Plans for Future

BENJAMIN HAGER '23
NEWS EDITOR

On March 1st of this year, Kevin Miller began working as the new Director of Buildings and Grounds at Hampden-Sydney College. Originally from Charlottesville, Miller's family moved to the region in 2011. He has 20 plus years of experience within the power generation, utilities, and energy management field, and he spent the last 14 years in the higher education energy market. He worked within the Energy and Utilities department at the University of Virginia for 4 years prior to serving as the Energy Manager at Longwood University for 8 years, and he served at Sweet Briar College as Associate Director of Physical Plant for the last two years. Miller earned a B.S. in Business Management and an MBA from Western Governors University as well as an Energy Management Diploma from NC State University. His professional certifications include Certified Control Systems Technician Level 1, Professional Energy Manager, and CompTia Project+, and he is also certified in the programming of multiple building automation system platforms. He has been married to his best friend for 20 years and has 4 wonderful boys ages 6 through 20. His family is active in the Charlotte County youth soccer community where he serves as a coach and Vice President. When it's time to relax, he and his family are often found at the Outer Banks. I had the pleasure of interviewing Miller to learn about his plans for the future as the new Director of Facilities Management (formerly known as Buildings and Grounds). When asked what brought him to Hampden Sydney, Miller emphasized the history and legacy of the College. "I love history and wanted to find a college that offered the ability to preserve and honor its historical roots. Having worked in higher educational institutions of all sizes, I prefer a smaller, more intimate campus environment where interaction with students and staff is common. [Additionally,] the location is perfect and allowed us to not move our family. Finally, and most importantly, every interaction with a student or staff member from Hampden-Sydney College has been overwhelmingly positive."

Miller went on, saying, "Prior to joining the college, I had worked with the soccer coach, Tommy [DiNuzzo], to host clinics for the Charlotte County Youth Soccer club for which I'm Vice President and coach multiple age groups. Every year I was amazed with the interaction and enthusiasm shown by

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Photo courtesy of hsc.edu

TIGERFEST

BENJAMIN HAGER '23
NEWS EDITOR

Do you like live music? If you do (and who doesn't?), you're in luck; Hampden-Sydney will be hosting a live music festival by the name of Tigerfest in late September of this year. I sat down with the project's mastermind, John Nimmo '22, for an inside scoop on the festival.

According to Nimmo, "Tigerfest is an event being put on by the radio club in conjunction with Longwood's. We're going to have a two-day music festival focused on Sydney students who play music as well as artists from the Farmville to Richmond area as a way to connect Sydney students and the Farmville music community with the surrounding area so that while Sydney students are at school, they can hopefully get more gigs in the area."

Tigerfest will take place from September 24th–25th at the newly-built stage/multipurpose area at Chalgrove Point. The festival will be split into two parts: the first day, Friday, will feature rap and electronic music, while the second day, Saturday, will feature all kinds of instrumental music. The thinking behind this, Nimmo says, is to curate music for specific crowds on each day.

"In the past at some shows I've played in Farmville, we have people who tend to like either rap/electronic music, or more popular instrumental things. We want to keep a consistent theme throughout the nights because a huge tonal shift can ruin a night of music, especially if the attendees aren't expecting that"

Alongside connecting Sydney students to potential music gigs in Farmville, Nimmo also wants to expose the campus to the underground music scene of the area.

"If you go to Press Club or the frat houses, you get a steady representation of classic rock and jam bands, but that doesn't seem to be very representative of the more underground music that plays in Farmville. We want to help share the unique sound of

Continue reading on page 5

LIFE

Feature: *Where Does Our Money Go?*

HARRISON CARTER '23
GUEST WRITER

Does President Stimpert make millions of dollars a year? Does Hampden-Sydney take our money and pocket it, rather than spending it on its students? Is our school ripping us off? These are common questions asked by students, and questions that will soon be answered.

In order to run a small liberal arts college effectively, administration and budget committees must be incredibly careful when it comes to spending students' tuition money. Small colleges like Hampden-Sydney receive less funding from the government than bigger state schools such as Virginia Tech or the University of Virginia.

This being said, Hampden-Sydney makes up this difference through a higher tuition cost as well as more gifts from alumni than the average large state institutions. Many students are left wondering, how is this money spent?

According to the Hampden-Sydney website, 95 percent of students receive financial aid. Currently, the average student at Hampden-Sydney pays around $30,000 per academic year including all fees and scholarships. By taking this number and multiplying it by the number of students currently attending the College (around 883), we see that the college brings in $26.5Cmillion annually from student's tuition alone. This does not take into account the large gifts alumni are frequently giving to the school, including the recent gift of $12 million.

According to the Vice President of Business Affairs and Finance Ken Copeland, the school takes in an estimated $43 million including tuition and room/board from students.

If the school receives $43 million annually from students, where is this money going? The answer to this question is more difficult to find than one may think. By looking at Hampden-Sydney's fact book for the 2019–20 school year, we can begin to see where our money is going.

It is important to remember that tuition and fees are not the only sources of income for Hampden-Sydney. According to the Hampden-Sydney factbook for the 2019–20 school year, the revenue distribution can be seen in the pie chart:

Though the tuition and fees category makes up a majority of the revenue, there are many other sources encompassing around $33 million. These include gifts and grants, endowment, other sources, and auxiliary enterprises. An auxiliary enterprise is anything that the College may have set up to benefit students without directly charging them. In the context of Hampden-Sydney, this includes the bookstore, the Tiger Inn, rental facilities, among many other sources.

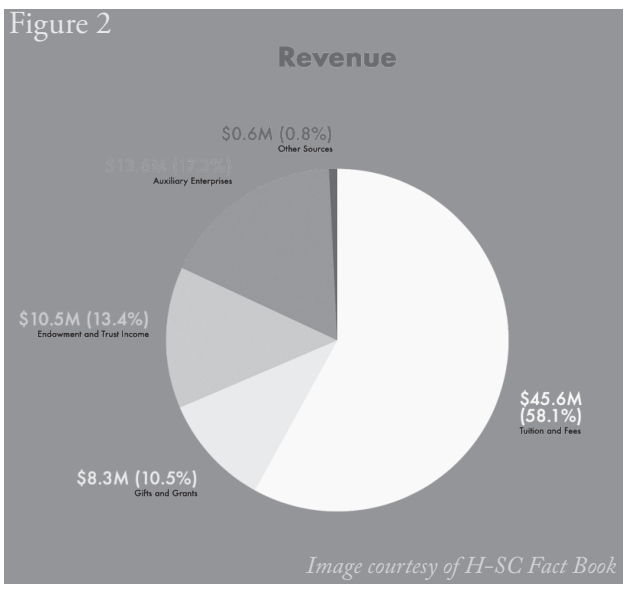
According to College President Larry Stimpert, our endowment currently sits at $215 million. This is an increase from the time Stimpert arrived when the endowment was approximately $146 million. At our current rate, Hampden-Sydney uses 4.5 percent of our endowment annually, meaning the endowment will continue to grow.

Now that we know how much money Hampden-Sydney is making, we are left with the question: where does this money go? First off, the majority of our money is spent on people. In the 2019–20 school year, around $14.5 million was used for employees. This is not abnormal and follows the trend of many other small liberal-arts colleges.

Due to the incredibly low student-to-faculty ratio, small colleges spend a large amount of money solely on paying their employees. As a result of so many students receiving financial aid, the school spends a large portion of its income on this as well. This amount is around $27 million a year, meaning a majority of the College's income is spent in those two categories alone.

There are many other smaller expenses that the College must put money towards, as demonstrated in the chart above (Figure 1) using data from the Hampden-Sydney factbook for the 2019–20 academic year.

As noted above, the two largest areas in which Hampden-Sydney spends money on are scholarships and fellowships, as well as instruction. This proves our administration's dedication to spending money on the people it serves.



Since the 2019–20 school year, liberal arts colleges across the country have been struggling with attendance and funding. As the COVID-19 pandemic has continued to crush our country, small private institutions have been forced to make budget cuts, cancel majors, and some have even shut their doors. Countless other older colleges have been forced to close down or anticipate closing, including the colleges displayed in the chart below.

Though attendance has been affected, Hampden-Sydney is not at risk of closing. Thanks in part to our large endowment, one of the largest among private schools in Virginia, our school was able to remain open during the pandemic.

Without our endowment, the school may have gone under. Stimpert said that there are three main levels of income for liberal arts colleges. These levels are wealthy, well-off, and comfortable. Wealthy colleges are rarely concerned about money due to their larger size and bigger endowment. Comfortable schools operate effectively, but problems may arise if the school's funding is reduced. Hampden-Sydney falls in the well-off category, in which colleges have plenty of money in their endowment to persevere through times of economic downturn. Though students were sent home when the pandemic began, we were quickly brought back to start the Fall 2020 semester in person. This, Stimpert says, was key to keeping the college afloat.

In the revenue graph above (Figure 2), we see that 58.1% of the school's income comes from student's tuition and fees. A large part of this comes from room and board. Many students may have scholarships to lessen their tuition, but room and board fees are never discounted and provide the school with a majority of their income. Without these fees, the school would have been at a large deficit going into the 2020–21 school year. In this case, the administration may have had to take money out of our endowment to stay afloat, something that can be very risky at a small institution.

While Hampden-Sydney may have been losing money, there are always alternative ways to make that money back. Fundraising is another large part of Hampden-Sydney's revenue and something that Stimpert is continually working on. As mentioned previously, Hampden-Sydney's student body currently sits at approximately 883 students. Copeland estimated that the college currently has enough staff and housing space to support 1150 to 1200 students. This number is generated with the current housing and staff, meaning that if the college were to hire more staff members and build more housing, the college could support many more students in our student body.

This being said, filling the space for 1150 to 1200 students has proven difficult in recent years. Due to the pandemic, larger state institutions have removed their requirements for standardized testing. Students who originally wanted to go to large state schools but could not meet the standardized test requirements now feel that they have a chance to get in. This among many other factors, Copeland believes, is why many private colleges are not meeting their application goals, including Hampden-Sydney.

Another factor for reduced applications is the lack of sports as a result of the pandemic. Typically, high school athletes are recruited in the fall and invited to play at Hampden-Sydney, but many schools in the surrounding areas moved their seasons to the spring. This being said, there is still an opportunity to recruit this spring and have prospective students apply over the summer.

While sporting events may have not happened in the fall, our sports teams have been heavily recruiting students to come to play at Hampden-Sydney this upcoming fall. Though these numbers are still unclear, the administration is hopeful that many more deposits will be coming in soon for the 2021–2022 school year. Similar to the last year's freshman class, it seems as though the class of 2025 will be another athlete-heavy class.

Even though applications have been reduced, retention rates have gone up in recent years. The class of 2022 was one of the biggest classes in history at the College, totaling 349 freshmen. Following this record high, the class of 2023 was noticeably smaller, coming in with just 235 freshmen. However, the retention rate for the class of 2023 is much higher than the class of 2022. We see this trend continuing with the class of 2024, with very few freshmen leaving after the first semester and even fewer transfer applications for the end of this spring semester. Looking forward, Stimpert plans to balance enrollment by bringing in as many freshmen as possible, while graduating as many seniors as possible. Enrollment, as Stimpert stated, is a two-part equation. Both applications and retention are equally important to running an institution effectively, especially a small liberal arts college like Hamp-

College Name:	Years in Operation:
Mills College (CA)	1852–2023
Pine Manor College (MA)	1911–2022
Becker College (MA)	1784–2021
Concordia College (NY)	1881–2021
Wesley College (DE)	1873–2021
Urban University (OH)	1850–2020
MacMurray College (IL)	1846–2020
Holy Family College (WI)	1885–2020
Green Mountain College (VT)	1834–2019
Hiwassee College (TN)	1849–2019
College of Rochelle (NY)	1904–2019
Marygrove College (MI)	1905–2019
Southern Vermont College (VT)	1926–2019
Marlboro College (VT)	1946–2020
Newbury College (MA)	1962–2019
College of St. Joseph (VT)	1956–2019

Continue reading on page 5

CONTINUATIONS

Freshmen! We want you!

Ever wanted to see your name in print? To experience the glory, prestige, and fame of a newswriter? To have a public platform where you can air your greivances against the system? A place where you can feature your writing, artwork, photography, or puzzles? Look no further! *The Tiger* is hiring, and we want *you* to come work for us. If you are interested in being a columnist, staff writer, cartoonist, or photographer, contact **newspaper@hsc.edu** as soon as possible for more information.

Tigerfest, cont'd

Farmville's underground music scene." Nimmo worked with other members of the Radio Club, including Taylor Ward '22, Roman Trettel '23, Schaefer LaBrie '22, as well as Louis Jackson, the president of The Wood, a music club at Longwood. Nimmo was also aided by Dylan Carrol, the lead singer of a Richmond band called Stay! Put!. Nimmo told me that Jackson and Carrol have both been a pleasure to work with and provided invaluable help in the process of planning Tigerfest and getting into contact with bands in the Farmville and Richmond areas.

Nimmo said that any students interested in participating in the festival should reach out to him by email (nimmoj22@hsc.edu), and he emphasized that all are welcome to participate.

"If any students are interested in getting involved, we'd love to have anyone playing any kind of music. We have a wide range of acts spanning from jam bands and classic rock and metal and emo rap and normal rap, so we have space for anything. I'd be absolutely ecstatic

Money, cont'd

school will be receiving an extra $1.5+ million to spend every academic year. As the COVID-19 pandemic becomes a distant memory, Stimpert plans to recruit students who love Hampden-Sydney and are driven to succeed. Many students end up leaving Hampden-Sydney because they fail academically or struggle to find their niche, and Stimpert aims to prevent this in order to graduate as many students as possible. This will continually increase the amount of revenue the college is receiving and ultimately will give the school more money to spend on people. As our mission statement claims, Hampden-Sydney is dedicated to forming good men and good citizens. This is evident in our budget, as a vast majority of the College's money is spent in order to give students an exceptional experience at the school. Hampden-Sydney's administration is continually finding new and exciting ways to raise money in order to better student's lives both in and out of the classroom.

COVID-19 Regulations, cont'd

tend classes. Individuals who contract COVID-19 or come into close contact with the virus will be required to quarantine or isolate at home. Furthermore, the College "does not plan to offer remote learning options." On a brighter note, the College will be open to visitors, but those who are not vaccinated will be required to wear a mask.

Last but not least, what will the dining hall be like? As of right now, you can say goodbye to Styrofoam boxes, plastic utensils, and premade drinks! You can now grab real plates, utensils, and cups as you make your way through the dining hall. The waffle maker, ice cream machine, orange juice machine, and sandwich makers are fully functional and ready to be used. The tables will be more abundant this year and you will only be required to wear a mask as you are navigating throughout the dining hall.

> As of right now, you can say goodbye to Styrofoam boxes, plastic utensils, and premade drinks!

B&G Director, cont'd

the student athletes. That was my first hint of how special the college is. My second was during the interview process, when it was apparent that the staff on campus truly enjoy working with one another. It felt like home and I'm thankful to have been granted this opportunity and have enjoyed my time here so far!"

Kevin and the rest of the Facilities Management staff worked diligently over the summer to improve various aspects of the campus. These improvements included upgrading to a portion of the Blakes and a section of the Hampden Units, repainting offices in Maples, and bringing some color with lighting upgrades into Carp Z.

A number of HVAC systems were also improved in various buildings (including a few fraternities), and the water tower was cleaned, resealed, and stirrers were added to the system to improve water quality.

"We've had a very busy summer. The week after graduation in May, Buildings and Grounds went through an organizational restructuring and rebranding effort. We are now operating under the name of Facilities Management. Our team was challenged with improving our internal work processes, along with adapting to new leadership changes, and a heavier than normal summer work load. I couldn't be more proud of our team and the effort they've put in over the summer… [W]e accomplished a lot in such a short amount of time. Our hope is that when the students arrive they'll see that although the campus is far from perfect, our team put forth an effort that should be cheered and applauded by the entire campus community. We're excited to have the students return and we hope that they appreciate all of the hard work done on their behalf."

> Our hope is that when the students arrive they'll see that although the campus is far from perfect, our team put forth an effort that should be cheered and applauded by the entire campus community.

In addition to the plethora of upgrades across campus, FM has also been working on an outdoor stage area at Lake Chalgrove. "The concept was to create an outdoor space that looks natural and inviting, but offers the college community with an outdoor gathering spot. Almost as if it's always been there and we've just discovered it! Daily use would be for dining, studying, or simply hanging out, while it can be easily converted into a stage and natural amphitheater within the grove."

As of Tuesday, August 10th, the Chalgrove project was about 75% complete. The multipurpose/stage area for outdoor dining, classes, and events is currently receiving some finishing touches, and Kevin told me they are aiming to complete the lighting and audio system around the second week of September.

FM is currently working on completing a historical preservation study of Venable Hall, looking at the history of the building and how to renovate the space and provide modern amenities required of student housing while preserving the historical significance of the structure. The target completion date for the study is in November.

FM is also beginning to plan for next year's summer work, including wrapping up the upgrades at the Blakes and Hampden Units.

"Due to the amount of money we spend every year having to repair housing spaces, it is hard for us to project what other projects we can accomplish next summer. If we are able to keep damage to a minimum that will allow us to allocate funds for more upgrades. Those decisions will be made as we get closer to next May.

Over the school year we will be working to put solar panels on the Facilities Management and Kirby Fieldhouse buildings, the latter will be getting a new roof as well. We are also working to develop a strategy to address the hard water stains in the housing bathrooms, specifically the showers.

We will likely not be able to complete this work prior to the students return so it is likely that will extend into the school year. Of course, we'll still be responding to work order requests and any other challenges that may arise."

Photo courtesy of hsc.edu

"THE BACK PAGE"

Pauley, cont'd

construction. Beyond the construction of the building itself, the Pauley Science Center will still require hardscaping, landscaping, and furnishings before it opens to students in the fall of 2022. Beyond acts of God such as heavy spring rains or other abnormal weather occurrences, the biggest obstacle delaying the opening of the center is the difficulty of acquiring furnishings for the building. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, there are shortages of all manner of supplies, from computer chips to chicken wings. Furnishings, such as chairs, tables, televisions, whiteboards, and other supplies are also backlogged.

The community should be at ease in regard to furnishings, however, according to Trinkle Professor of Biology Dr. Alex Werth and Director of the Physical Plant John Prengaman. Prengaman is the project superintendent who recently retired from fully working for the College and is in charge of the furnishings, fixtures, and equipment in the new science building. One is left to wonder, however, who decides what goes into the building?

The science departments that will occupy the center have all had input into what exactly gets put into the new building. The architect of the building also consulted and worked with the science departments while the floor plans for the building were still being drawn. All the departments have had input into not only what furnishings, fixtures, and equipment will fill the rooms, but also what the building itself looks like. Copeland placed high praise upon the departments, making clear that the input of each department has been "critical to the construction of the building." While all this news of the new building is exciting in the extreme, students, and perhaps even faculty, might be left wondering as to what the fate of the beloved Gilmer Hall will be.

Copeland admitted that insofar as the future of Gilmer goes, there's no clear answer now. In his words, "every building on campus...could use a little TLC." Students and faculty alike are certain to agree with that statement, but this statement, of course, applies to Gilmer as well.

Copeland reported being unsure as to what items would move from Gilmer to Pauley, what departments might move from Morton to Gilmer, or even as to what the immediate fate of the building would be. Copeland is optimistic for a remodel of Gilmer sometime in the near future, as the age of the building qualifies it for state and federal tax credits, and he emphasized that neither he nor anyone involved in the renovation of buildings on campus wants to leave the building mothballed for long.

Returning, however, to the construction of Pauley, Copeland assured *The Tiger* that the construction is "coming together nicely." There are four local contractors working on the building, so the Hampden-Sydney community can be assured that the money spent by the College is going right back to our immediate community. While we all await the construction of the newest building on campus, we thank all those whose expertise, talent, time, and sweat have gone into providing us with cutting edge science equipment and facilities.

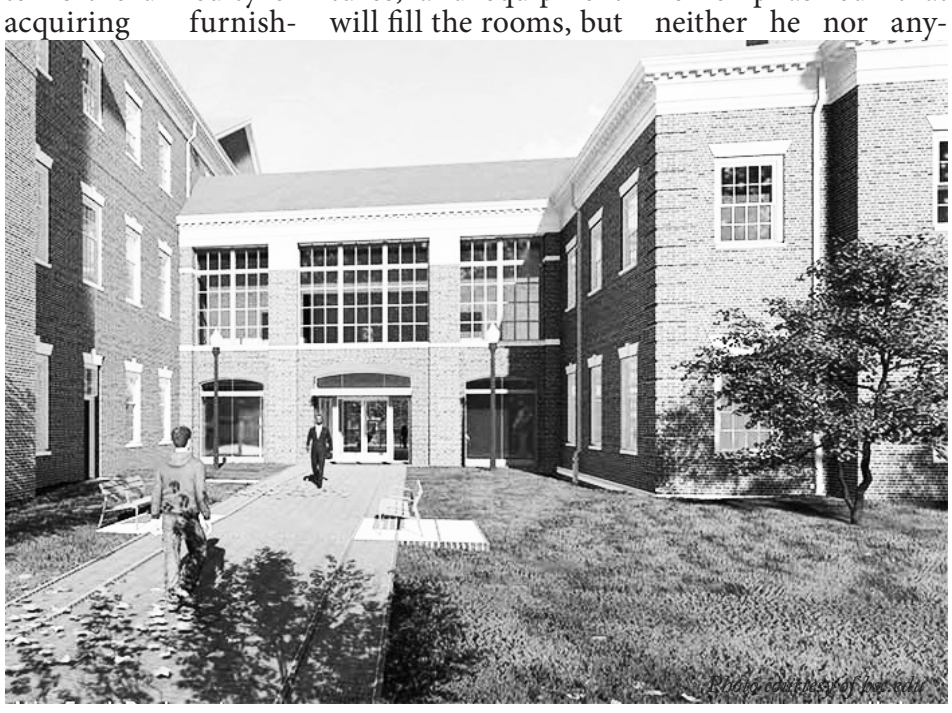


Photo courtesy of hsc.edu

Letter to the Freshmen

MICHAEL VAN CITTERS '22
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

People who love their college or university typically love it because they think it is special. To them, there is something about the place *they* went to college, and you just can't find that thing anywhere else. They think that their *alma mater* offers its students something that no other college or university can provide.

So when I say that I love Hampden-Sydney, what I really mean to say is that Hampden-Sydney is special. In other words, I think that something about Hampden-Sydney separates it from every other college in the country. What, then, is that something? Why is H-SC different from any other college?

Over the next four years, you will hear frequently that Hampden-Sydney's mission is to form good men and good citizens. What you will hear less frequently is the full mission statement: that the College's mission is to form good men and good citizens *in an atmosphere of sound learning*. The phrase "good men and good citizens" has a nice ring to it, but it is incomplete without the second half.

H-SC is not the first institution to embrace the idea that the fundamental aim of education is the cultivation of good people. Humans have been espousing character education for millennia and, with varying degrees of success, have endeavored to teach other people how to be good. What sets H-SC apart from other institutions in the twenty-first century is not the goal of cultivating character in its students: what sets it apart is the method by which it achieves the goal.

In a single sentence, what I believe makes Hampden-Sydney special is its commitment to developing youths into men *by* providing and maintaining an atmosphere of sound learning.

On the pages of a college brochure, phrases like "character development" and "sound learning" do not sound as attractive to students as phrases like "state-of-the-art fitness center" and "top-ranked dining hall"—but they *do* reflect a dedication to investing in their students rather than simply appeasing them with kitschy luxuries.

The truth—and it might hit pretty hard in your first few months—is that Hampden-Sydney's facilities are not the best in the country. Its amenities are far from luxurious, and its priorities are not in your gratification. They are in you. They are in guiding you and helping you to turn yourself into the best person you can reasonably be.

We are extremely fortunate to go to college, but we are doubly fortunate to go to a college that values the importance of Western and global cultures, rhetoric, philosophy, religion, history, literature, classics, economics, natural science, art, and a plethora of other topics—not simply because each of these topics is interesting for its own sake but because each offers a perspective on the good life, the life led by a good man and citizen.

Even so, as great as the courses and professors at H-SC are, there is far more to the atmosphere of sound learning than a classroom experience. The word *atmosphere* comes from the Ancient Greek words *atmos*, meaning vapor, and *sphairos*, meaning sphere. Although, I admit, a word's etymology can only tell us so much about the word as we use it today, I think that this etymology sheds light on H-SC's mission statement, because *learning* at Hampden-Sydney is something like a vapor, not something that you can point to or put your finger on, but something that is there nonetheless.

Hampden-Sydney's atmosphere is one in which conversations catalyze spontaneously, and, quite often, the most valuable and interesting insights you hear come during chance encounters with friends at the Moans or quick meetings with professors that turn into two-hour discussions. Friendly intellectual argument and engagement with one another precipitates naturally, like rain from the sky. You cannot buy that kind of experience.

Hampden-Sydney is not a perfect place. I believe it has its flaws, and I am frequently vocal about what I think those flaws are. (I encourage you to do the same!). But Hampden-Sydney gets it right when and where it matters. Hampden-Sydney strives to provide an environment in which students can learn what it means to be a good person and realize the ideal through hard work.

Nothing that I can say here could adequately express what I mean, because what I mean is not meant to be said. It is meant to be experienced. A wealth of knowledge, camaraderie, and fulfilment are at your fingertips, because you are at a place that places them there. All you have to do is reach for them.

Realistically speaking, I could never claim to know that Hampden-Sydney is the only institution in America to recognize that moral character can be achieved through a rigorous intellectual education. But I can claim with certainty that no other institution with which I am familiar can offer you the kind of education—and the kind of experience—that Hampden-Sydney can. Go get it.

Opinion: Joe Biden Failed the Afghani People

PATRICK STRITE '24
OPINION EDITOR
DANIEL NIVENS '24
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

After the Twin Towers fell on September 11, 2001, then-President George W. Bush announced the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan. The invasion was launched to depose the Taliban, who were harboring and funding al-Qaeda. Bush's announcement in October of 2001 began 20 years of U.S. troop presence in Afghanistan, meant to keep the Taliban and other terrorist groups from using the country as a base. That all ended this month as President Joe Biden unilaterally withdrew all U.S. forces.

On August 15, the capital of Kabul fell to the Taliban and the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan was reconstituted. To be frank, this was the absolute worst possible outcome and reveals the complete incompetence of Biden's foreign policy and the concept of "No More Endless Wars."

The current withdrawal indicates a severe misunderstanding of purpose both from the foreign policy establishment and the American people. There was broad support for "Bringing the Boys home!" before the images of Afghanis falling from U.S. military planes.

The misunderstanding stems from the conflation of so-called "nation-building" and security forces. Indeed, it very well might be futile to build a Western-style democracy in Afghanistan; it is not futile to station troops there to guarantee it cannot be used for terrorism.

Nation-building was never the primary objective for the invasion of Afghanistan; it was always to eliminate a sizable breeding ground for terrorism. Confusion around the primary objective of an American presence in Afghanistan lies behind why so many cling to the idea that nothing was gained in 20 years, a proposition rooted in falsehood.

When recently asked what we got out of those 20 years in Afghanistan, former Navy SEAL and U.S. Congressman Dan Crenshaw answered "No more 9/11s." The same could be said of what we got out of 68 years in Korea or 76 years in Germany; "No more Korean or World Wars."

Notably, U.S. forces in Afghanistan prior to the Trump withdrawal were still significantly smaller than troop numbers in Korea or Germany (15,000 troops in Afghanistan compared to 29,000 in Korea and 36,000 in Germany). No one says "Bring the boys home from Korea," because they serve to keep North Korea at bay and support our allies in South Korea. Afghanistan-based troops served the same purpose; preventing the Taliban from growing and serving as a deterrent for Iran, Russia, China, and Pakistan. The U.S. can afford and should maintain security forces throughout the world to keep our enemies at bay.

Even if the U.S. forces had to be withdrawn, though, President Biden completely botched the mission. He began poorly by setting the asinine deadline of September 11, dishonoring the men and women who died in that attack, including H-SC alumnus Kenneth Lewis '74. The deadline also ignored a desperate plea from the Afghani government to delay the withdrawal until the winter when fighting in Afghanistan is nigh impossible.

Biden's decision also ignored the structural difficulties that a U.S. withdrawal caused in the Afghani Army and Airforce. Biden has largely laid the fall of Kabul on the Afghan Army; what he has failed to note is that the U.S. essentially kneecapped the Army as they left. The Afghan Army is structured in the mold of the U.S. Army, which relies heavily on air support and clandestine intelligence work.

The U.S. entirely withdrew its air support and intelligence operatives. Biden also refused to allow U.S. civilian contractors into Afghanistan, contractors who the Afghanis relied on to maintain their airforce. This action effectively grounded the airforce, explaining why many battalions simply surrendered. They simply did not know how to fight without air superiority. These actions all but guaranteed the buckling of the Afghani Army in the face of fierce Taliban resistance.

Furthermore, the hasty withdrawal has left allies, and even U.S. citizens, trapped inside a dangerously hostile environment. This is despite aid organizations petitioning for months to evacuate Americans and Afghans who worked directly with American military personnel.

Clearly, the Biden Administration never even considered how exactly to evacuate the country, resulting in Americans being airlifted from the roof of the Embassy. Just to fix this calamity, the Biden administration is now sending 6,000 troops into Afghanistan to rescue these citizens,5,500 more than he was withdrawing in the first place.

So in short, the actions of President Biden in regards to Afghanistan have resulted in the worst humiliation to the United States since the 1974 fall of Saigon. The situation will continue to unfold, but almost none of the news will be good for our country. The people of Afghanistan have once again been subjected to the byzantine and draconian rule of the Taliban, a regime which will yet again offer refuge to terrorists. Because of President Biden, the United States is less safe from terrorism than it has been since 2001.